The People's Korea

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DPRK Reunion Bid Draws Int'l Attention

Pyongyang's new reunification proposals (See *the People's Korea*, January 16, 1980), which DPRK Vice-President Kim Il and Premier Li Jong Ok made on January 11 in their letters to 12 representatives of the south Korean authorities, political parties and organizations, are receiving strong support and sympath y within and without. World-wide attention is now focussed on its new initiative.

In these letters, Pyongyang observed: "...we consider that talks between the authorities, along with a comprehensive north-south political consultative conference which we have already proposed to convene, may be held and we are ready to bring talks between high-level authorities to maturity."

This can be defined as the realistic and reasonable overtures for the acceleration of the independent peaceful reunification.

Furthermore, Vice-President Kim Il sent on January 15 letters to ten overseas Korean personages of various strata, proposing "to have an open-hearted exchange of views on all problems for opening the door of the dialogue and reunification."

According to reports, however, the south Korean authorities are trying to ignore the need to have broad negotiations between the Political parties and organizations of the north and the south, repeating the "talks between the authorities." A parallel action is a new wave of crackdown on those who were to receive the letters from the DPRK—Yun Bo Son, former president, Ham Sok Hon, a Quaker leader and An Pil Su, Chairman of the United Socialist Party.

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) Jan. 22 denounced the crackdown as "a sinister act going against dialogue and reunification and throwing cold water on the road of dialogue" and "a challenge" to the DPRK.

Rodong Sinmun Commentary

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) Jan. 23 carries an editorial article on the lapse of one year since the DPRK advanced the four-point proposal through the statement of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland dated January 23, 1979, for overcoming difficulties lying on the road to national reunification and paving a shortcut to reunification.

The article titled "The Door of Dialogue for Reunification Must Be Opened at the Earliest Date" notes that the new four-point proposal for reunification put forward by the DPRK side in January last year was one giving a concrete shape to the President Kim Il Sung's policy of peacefully solving the question of national reunification through dialogue and negotiation.

Today when the situation surrounding our country is very complex and the outside forces try to perpetuate the division of our country and fish in troubled waters, it notes, if we maintain antagonism and confrontation, the tension between the north and the south will be heightened and the division of the country be further deepened.

Now is the time when the north and the south should put an end to the 35 year tragic history of antagonism and confrontation and open up a new history of unity and reunification.

It says:

North-south collaboration and unity are a firm guarantee for the solution of the question of the country's peaceful reunification independently without outside interference, in a peaceful way without recourse to force of arms and on the basis of the one common national idea irrespective of differences in idea, ideology and system.

To open the door of reunification through collaboration and unity—this is an urgent demand of the times and the nation which brooks no further delay.

The highest duty of politicians is to mitigate the sufferings and misfortunes of the nation caused by the division of the country and to realize the desire of the fellow countrymen for reunification and their immediate task is to make a positive contribution to the arrangement of a dialogue between the north and the south for reunification.

In conclusion the article stresses:

Those who truly love the country and the nation and are concerned about the destiny of the country must not hesitate to devote themselves to the cause of reunification. They must respond to our sincere proposal for bilateral and multilateral contacts and broad negotiations between the political parties and organisations and authorities of the north and the south.

S. Korean Public Demand Reunion

Recently public demands for reunification and democracy are becoming stronger in various quarters of the south Korean society currently under martial law. They are increasingly frank in speaking what they really want, after the Pak's assassination. Follow some of those remarks:

Choe Byong Gu (male), an official at the cultural affairs department of the ministry of foreign affairs, said in his article to *the Chosun Ilbo* (December 18, 1979) as follows:

"A small peninsula (Korea) is located at the northeastern part of the huge Asian Continent. Although it is small and it does not abound in natural resources, our ancesters built a brilliant culture here.

"Blood of the Korean nation is flowing through blood-vessels from Mt. Paekdu to Mt. Halla. Our ancesters, with the strong will to defend the country, never yielded even an inch of land to the invaders. Who on earth brought us such a tragedy of national division?

"The division of the Korean Peninsula did not come by accident or was not unavoidable.

"It is sure that there was the cause for the division. Therefore, for the reunification of the divided country, there must be a cause and the reunification will not be achieved by accident.

"However, it seems that our young people are prone to view the division into north and south as a normal state and have abandoned the reunification for a lost cause. They hope that someone will try to achieve the reunification.

"We are young men born in the era of the division. Let's not have a dreamy outlook for reunification, divorced from the stark reality. However, let's have a vivid belief and confidence that the Korean Peninsula must be reunified and can be reunified. Let's plant a dream of reunification to the mind of us each, and water and raise it. I wish I could dream of climbing the snow-covered Mt. Paekdu on the last night of this year (1979)."

Nam Gwang U (male), president of the normal college of Inha University, said in his article to *the Chosun Ilbo* (January 11, 1980) as follows:

"Reunification is the greatest task in the 1980s. A long period, almost equal to the 36 years of the Japanese colonial rule, has passed and the difference between north and south is being expanded. Each of the political parties should never be too concerned with seizing political power to forget this task. For the cause of the reunification!"

Author Han Un Sa said in his article to *the Dong-A Ilbo* (January 12, 1980) as follows:

"Japan, which seized the Korean Peninsula in 1910, started its history of exploitation by enacting laws favourable for it. Japan made the peasants helpless and exhausted, and forced them to change their names into Japanese one, trying to make the second-class Japanese citizens. However, they were defeated.

"People of our generation who have survived the era of the Japanese imperialist rule to live in the 1980s desire each year will be helpful for the reunification of north and south before we die."

DFRF CC Secretariat Director Calls for Reunion Talks

Ho Jong Suk, Director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, in her talk issued on the first anniversary of the publication of the statement of the Central Committee of the DFRF containing the four-point proposal for promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at the instance of the Workers' Party of Korea (January 23, 1979), called for opening the road to peaceful reunification with the united strength of the whole nation, KCNA reported.

She said:

Out of the desire to solve the question of national reunification reflecting the general will of the whole nation under the prevailing situation, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic recently took another epochal step of sending letters to the south Korean authorities, representatives of political parties and organisations and personages of various strata residing abroad proposing to them to meet with each other and exchange views in an unreserved way.

Reflected in these letters is a patriotic and earnest desire to arrange a dialogue as early as possible in our country where there is no dialogue and solve the question of reunification peacefully with the united strength of the nation, not seeking any partisan interest or pursuing any party's policy or selfish motives.

Therefore, no one should accept the letters of our side with the old stand of seeking confrontation and division.

A north-south dialogue should be a wide-range dialogue participated in not only by the authorities but also by representatives of political parties and organisations; it should be a dialogue for reunification both in name and reality.

For this there must not be the old practice of those with power preventing others from participating in a dialogue or monopolizing it, using a dialogue for reunification in pursuing a splittist aim or seeking a sham dialogue.

I express the hope that the authorities of south Korea as well as all political parties, organisations and personages of all circles at home and abroad will willingly turn out for dialogue and negotiations for the peaceful reunification of the country in active response to our letters, conscious of the lofty mission they assume before the nation.

Foreign Press Reactions

People's Daily

The Chinese paper "People's Daily" January 15 carried a commentary headlined "New Proposal," according to a report.

On January 11 Vice-President Kim Il and Premier Li Jong Ok proposed to the south Korean authorities to hold direct talks at an earliest possible date and discuss the issue of reunification with them, it pointed out, and said:

This new proposal reflects the ardent desire of the Korean people to reunify the country.

Following the sudden death of Pak Jung Hi in October last year, the northern side initiated a proposal "to find a way out for the nation through cooperation, unity and reunification," and at the same time suggested that the two sides cooperate in the economic, cultural, educational, health and other fields.

These suggestions will play a positive role in the promotion of independent and peaceful reunification of Korea which is fully in conformity with the desire of the Korean nation and the fundamental interests of the Korean people of all strata.

Romanian Scinteia

The Romanian paper "Scinteia" January 16 carried a commentary in support of the fresh proposals of the DPRK for national reunification, according to a Agerpres report.

It said:

In keeping with her principled position, Romania fully backs the fresh proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and assesses them highly, considering that they meet the Korean nation's aspirations.

The fresh proposals are of a nature to open the way out of the abnormal situation, that is the country's division, to lead to the remaking of the unity and to conditions for concerting the whole people's efforts on the road of economic and social progress, in a united, democratic and peaceful homeland.

These fresh constructive initiatives express the firm, unflinching will of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for taking the road of reunification of the homeland, the supreme aspiration of the entire nation.

Pravda

Tass on January 18 said:

Pravda's correspondent in Pyongyang in his commentary describes "The fresh peace initiative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is very timely and topical."

The correspondent comments on the call of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for resuming the interrupted dialogue between the country's north and south.

He calls attention to the fact that in order to solve the Korean question as early as possible the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed to hold comprehensive negotiations participated in by the political parties and public organisations in the two parts of the country and expressed its readiness to have talks with the south Korean authorities including high-level talks.

Veep Sends Letters to Overseas Koreans for Dialogue, Reunification

Kim Il, Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, on January 15 sent letters to Koreans of all circles residing abroad to realize the dialogue between the north and the south and promote the peaceful reunification of the country, KCNA reported.

Stressing in the letters that under the obtaining situation the whole nation should get awakened and reject outside forces and the fellow countrymen should collaborate and unite with each other transcending differences in ideology and idea and thus achieve the reunification of the country, he expressed the hope that a dialogue between the north and the south would be held at an early date.

Pointing to the importance of the mission of all the political figures in the north and the south and abroad at the present juncture, he proposed direct meetings with personalities of all circles abroad to have an open-hearted exchange of views on all problems for opening the door of the dialogue and reunification.

The letters have already been sent by international mail to ten personages—Rim Chang Yong, senior chairman of the Union of Overseas South Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification and permanent adviser to the Democratic Koreans United in the Americas, Kim Jae Jun, honorary chairman of the Council of South Koreans for Human Rights in North America, Choe Dok Sin, chairman of the Paedal Soldiers Society, Chang Chong Myong, head of the "ROK" Residents Association in Japan, Kim Jae Hwa, Acting Chairman of the Japan headquarters of the National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and the Promotion of Unification, Yun I Sang, adviser to the South Korean Council for the Building of Democratic Society in West Germany, Choe Hong Hui, publisher of the "Paedal Sinbo", Kim Song Rak, chairman of the Society for Promotion of National Unification, Li Sang Chol, permanent chairman of the North American headquarters of the National Union for Democracy and National Unification, and Li Yong Je, chairman of the Society in France for Promoting Korea's Independent Unification.

DPRK Olympic Com. Chairman Sends Letter to His S. Korean Counterpart

PYONGYANG, Jan. 21 (KCNA)—Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, on January 21 sent the following letter to Pak Jong Gyu, Chairman of the south Korean Olympic Committee and Chairman of the South Korean Sports Association:

I acknowledge the receipt of your reply to our letter dated December 20, 1979, proposing that the north and south form a joint sports team to participate in the 22nd Olympiad as a single national team.

Your side, in the letter, turned down our proposal to form a single national team on the ground that "No success can be expected either in view of time or technique" in talks for sportsmen of the north and the south to jointly participate in the 22nd Olympiad.

This goes against the earnest wish of the sportsmen of the north and the south and the ardent desire of the whole nation to see that the sportsmen of the north and the south open talks at the earliest possible date and form a single team for rejoining the severed national ties in the sports field at least and displaying the honour of the nation.

We deeply regret this.

As for the problems of time and technique brought forward by your side, we think they cannot be a justifiable reason for denying the participation of the north and the south in the 22nd Olympiad as a single national team.

If we both have an intention, even the slightest, to pool strength and display jointly the resourcefulness of the nation in the sports fields, there will be enough time for the formation of a single national team and the technical and business-like problems also will be smoothly solved, given sincere mutual consultation.

The question lies in the fundamental stand—whether one hails or opposes a single national team. Time or the technical condition can never raise a problem.

In the letter your side artificially made the problem complicated by mixing our proposal for participating in the games as a single national team with the alternate matches in the north and the south, the problem of the participation in games in Seoul and the holding of sports talks since July.

We cannot construe this otherwise than an attempt to justify the stand of your side against our proposal on talks for the formation of a single national team and mislead public opinion at home and abroad.

Your side has a disgraceful precedent of disrupting talks by bringing forward the problem of alternate matches which had nothing to do with the basic agenda at the talks for the formation of a single team at the time of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships last year.

We once again urge your side not to act contrary to the desire of the whole nation for the participation of a single national team in the 22nd Olympiad but recover the sound sports spirit and national stand and respond without delay to talks between the sportsmen of the north and the south for the formation of a single national team.

If sportsmen of the north and the south sit at one place, they will deepen mutual understanding and trust and favourably solve all problems, meeting each other half way.

Proceeding from this stand, the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee once again propose to have talks between sportsmen of the north and the south on February 1 for the participation in the 22nd Olympiad as a single national team in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

We expect an affirmative answer from your side to our repeated proposal.

Pyongyang's Bid for Unified Team to Int'l Sport Meets

On January 21, the DPRK's Olympic Committee Chairman Kim Yu Sun sent the second letter to his south Korean counterpart, proposing that north and south Korea form a joint sports team to participate in the 22nd Olympic Games in Moscow (scheduled in July this year) as a single national team and to hold talks between representatives of the sportsmen of the north and the south to discuss this question.

The first letter to the same effect was sent from north to south on December 20, 1979. However, Pak Jong Gyu, south Korean Olympic Committee Chairman, virtually turned down this proposal, by making a counter-proposal to "hold a talk of sportsmen for general north-south sports exchanges after the Moscow Olympic Games in July" under the pretext that "no success can be expected either in terms of time or technically from a talk of sportsmen of the north and the south for joint participation in the Moscow Olympic Games."

The second letter was issued from the firm will of the DPRK side to realize the desire of all the Korean people to send a single national team to the Moscow Olympic Games.

"A single national team" proposal is not new to us as the DPRK proposed to south Korea to form a unified team to an international sports meeting on every occasion, as a preparatory step for national reunification.

The DPRK has paid consistent and sincere efforts for the reunification of north and south Korea in sports field in the past 35 years since the day of liberation.

President Kim Il Sung made overtures in November 1945 to south Korea proposing to reopen the "Pyongyang-Seoul Soccer Match" and the "Pyongyang-Seoul Ice Sports Meeting" that had been traditionally held between Pyongyang and Seoul since 1930s, and in January and March 1946 the "Pyongyang-Seoul Soccer Match" was held, overcoming the barrier of the 38th Parallel.

In October 1948, a national comprehensive sports meeting was held in Pyongyang to celebrate the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (September 9, 1948). This

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KOREA FOCUS

Carter Doctrine

The Carter Administration is eager to maintain American influence with Third World countries, non-aligned states by letting them fight each other.

President Carter transformed himself into a complete hawk in his 1980 State of the Union Address. Declaring the American will to remian world's most powerful state, Carter cited as challenges for his country (1) the commitment by the Soviet Union of its troops beyond its borders, (2) the heavy dependence of democratic industrial states on oil supplies from Middle East and (3) pressures for social, religious, economic and cultural changes in many developing countries. He calls for reinforced American military presence in Middle East and Southwest Asia, construction or expansion of military bases in some countries, improvement of strained relations with certain countries and formation of a 100,000-strong rapid-development force at a total cost of $9 billion in coming five years.

This move to create a CENTO-like alliance will likely aggravate tension in the region and flagrantly infringe upon the independence of its peoples.

Following World War II, the national-liberation struggles were organized with unflagging vigor in Asia, Africa and Latin America where over 80 countries won national independence during some 30 years. They form the Third World which is a progressive anti-imperialist force on the geopolitical scene. The Third World accounts for over two-thirds of UN members as a major political factor in the world. No big country can stand in the way of Third World countries striving for independence and sovereignty.

Imperialism and dominationism are responsible for the present tensions in Middle East and other parts of the Third World as they are trespassing on the national independence of peoples of the regions. The behaviour of dominationism in various firms are compounding the situation. The Carter Administration was at first an advocate of peace and human rights. A report by the Republican Party, however, the Carter Administration violated 227, fulfilled 130 and was not clear about the remainder of its original 667 commitments. In any event, Carter totally abrogated his election commitment to the world. He is now an out-and-out hawk.

What he referred to as changes in many developing countries are obviously domestic matters of those countries whose motive is to get rid of any type of subjugation and preserve their own independence. How can those legitimate moves represent a challenge to the United States or a direct assault on it? The United States should not rationalize its military intervention in those countries under the pretext of interference by foreign powers. No attempt to perpetuate American influence in that region should not be tolerated or justified. Control of international politics by superpowers is already over. A new age is in, with a new international economic order and respect for the independence of every nation. The national-liberation struggle is about to win ultimate victory. At such juncture, it is not permissible for superpowers to divide the Third World.

The same thing can be said of the Korean Peninsula. The demand of the Korean people for independence is for the withdrawal of U.S. forces deployed in one half of the Korean Peninsula and for a stop to its division caused by foreign powers.

Carter is intent on continuing American presence in that area in scandalous defiance of such aspirations of the Korean people. In his State of the Union Address Carter defined partnership with Japan as crucial to American policy in Asia. On the plea of the balance of force, he justified the halt of the U.S. military withdrawal from south Korea and the reinforced military presence there. As the peoples of Middle East, Southwest Asia and other parts of the Third World do, the Korean people hate the idea of their country becoming a battleground for foreigners. Real peace can come to the Korean Peninsula never through a competition between foreign powers or their arms expansion or their balance of force, but as a result of their total disengagement from there.

A series of proposals as set forth by Carter faces tough objections within American allies and within the American people and is certain to backfire.

Stable Decent Living of People In DPRK

Growing National Income

Today, the DPRK ranks among the developed nations in various fields including national income. Per capita national income of 1979 marked 1,920 dollars while per capita GNP in 1979 of south Korea was as much as 1,624 dollars (according to the Bank of Korea).

In his New Year address of 1980, President Kim Il Sung stated as follows:

"Our per capita national income last year, if computed in dollars, was as much as 1,920 dollars."

As he pointed out, the national income of the DPRK has been steadily on the rise.

During the past 30 years, the national income of the people in the DPRK has increased 20 times

With the successful fulfillment of the Three-Year Plan (1954-1956), national income in 1955 rose to 160 per cent of 1953 and to 111 per cent of the prewar year 1949.

In 1960, national income increased 2.1 times over 1956, and the wages of industrial and office workers showed a 2.1-fold advance during the same period. Per capita national income was 500 won in 1966, or a 1.2-fold increase as against 1962. and it rose to 580 won in 1967.

In terms of national income the DPRK ranked among the developed nations in 1974 when per capita national income exceeded-1,000 dollars.

And per capita national income in 1979 was as much as 1,920 dollars.

Indications are that the material and technical foundations of the country have been very solid and the people's living standard is very high.

In all sectors of the national economy the output value per employee is continuously growing.

In 1974, the per employee output value reached 9,844 won, overshooting the level envisaged in the Six-Year Plan. The new target is to raise the per employee output value to over 15,000 won.

The national income which is increasingly growing thanks to the popular policy of the Republic is devoted totally to the promotion of the people's well-being.

No Inflation: Price Decrease VS Wage Hike

Furthermore, there is no inflation, or stagflation in the DPRK, while prices in the capitalist countries including Japan and the United States are skyrocketing.

The national income which is growing day by day is totally directed to the improvement of the people's well-being.

Photo: Ladies doing their shopping at a department store in Pyongyang They say the quality of the goods as increasingly improved.

In 1970 the living allowances of all the workers, technicians and office employees increased 31.5 per cent on an average. In 1974 the prices of various kinds of manufactured goods, footwear and daily necessities dropped by 30 per cent on an average, 50 per cent at the maximum. They are increasingly falling in the country.

No Food, Clothing & Housing Problems

With a mighty national economy, the DPRK fully solves the problems of food, clothing and housing, which are vital to man's life, on the principle of self-reliance.

The country has no food problems, as it is producing food enough to feed the entire nation.

The state provides the population with rice at 8 chon per kilogram, while buying it at 62 chon from farmers. The consumer prices are not more than the expenses for transportation.

The state also supplies side-dishes and contents of the meal such as eggs, meat, vegetables, cooking oil, soybeans and soybean sauce at prices lower than their purchase prices from farmers.

The people there basically need not buy clothes on their own, as the state seasonally supplies clothes to the people from infants to adults. In particular, children and students from creche to university are given their uniforms each season by the state.

The people can buy additional clothes, if necessary, at cheap prices.

All the people are housed in state-supplied, well-furnished and centrally-heated apartments, free of rents. Dwellers pay only utility charges accounting for only 2-3 per cent of their monthly pay.

Free Education

In the DPRK, 3.5 million children are growing in the nurseries and kindergartens at state and social expenses and 5.1 million children and students receive free education at schools of all levels ranging from primary school to higher educational institutions. No students are required to pay for tuition fees.

Free Medical Care

Medical centers are found everywhere in the DPRK. The system of completely free medical care for all the population was enforced in January, 1953, the section doctor system was introduced, the average life expectancy reached 73 years, the mortality rate dropped to one-quarter of that before the liberation days.

Under the free medical assistance system, the treatment of out-patients and in-patients, treatment at sanatoria and all other forms of medical services are free and it is a universal and complete free medical assistance system under which the state bears not only the doctor's medicinal fees but also the charges for board during hospitalization and travelling expenses to and from sanatoria.

No Taxation

The taxation system was abolished once and for all on April 1, 1974 in the DPRK. Thus, the DPRK became the first tax-free country.

Revenue from taxes still holds about 15 percent of the national budget even in highly developed socialist countries. There are no other countries in the world that declared the full abolition of taxation system.

This is one of the reasons why the DPRK is called a "model country of socialism."

Does German Solution Apply to Korea?

Does the German solution apply to the Korean question? The uniformed people may favor it. Under whatsoever circumstances, that solution cannot work in Korea. The different origins and nature of the Korean question need a totally different solution.

As President Kim Il Sung said, "The Korean question is of fundamentally different character from the question of a country that was divided as a consequence of an aggressive war it had waged and lost." To be precise, the German solution would never resolve the Korean question but aggravate it by creating "two Koreas."

NOT PARTY TO WAR OF AGGRESSION

The Germans were responsible for the start of the last two world wars which caused havoc with mankind. The two wars claimed tens of mollions of casualties, left numerous people homeless and caused astronomical damages to many nations. Despite those vast costs, the Germans were defeated each time, ending with their country divided into East and West Germany.

In case of Korea, its people never participated in any aggressive war and in particular in the last two global wars. They were rather subjected to aggression and colonial plunder by foreign powers. They waged valiant resistance and won finally national liberation. Under any international law, any foreign power is not entitled to seize even an inch of Korean soil because its people were not defeated but were liberated.

Neighboring countries of Germany have every legitimate reason to feel threatened by a unified Germany and consequently support Germany left divided. But a reunified Korea would not pose any physical, political and economic threat to its neighboring states.

Post-WWII international treaties and agreements stipulate the permanent division of Germany for the sake of the peace and security of Europe and the rest of the world. In striking contrast, all the international agreements concerning Korea's status in post-WWII period clearly call for it to become liberated and emerge a unified state without being reduced to a cripple of any country. None of them justifies Korea divided into north and south.

LONG HISTORY OF SINGLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

The German people were unified some one century ago for the first time in their history. The historical identity as a single state is not firm. Living separated has been generally modus vivendi for the Germans.

The Korean case is totally different. The Korean people have several thousand years of history as a unified nation on the present Korean Peninsula. Ethnologically, they are among the few homogeneous in the world. They speak Korean and use the common customs, wearing unique traditional costumes.

In many periods of their history did the Korean people become targets of serious invasions by neighboring countries but heroically resisted and survived them, preserving their own cultural cohesion as a single nation. Each time, the invasions served to reinforce the Korean sense of unity and cohesion as a homogeneous nation and led to the collapse of the governments of the invader countries. In short, union is the time-honored modus vivendi and only way of survival for the Korean people.

NATIONAL CONSENSUS ON NEED FOR REUNIFICATION

What distinguishes the Korean question from the German question is the complete consensus of opinion within the Korean people north or south or abroad on the urgency for territorial reunification. The Germans agreed to live separated in two Germanies.

President Kim Il Sung stated: "...our people are unanimously longing for reunification. The forces opposed to Korea's reunification are the outside forces that are keen to invade and dominate Korea and, as for the corresponding internal forces, there is only a handful of quislings selling out the country and the people to foreign forces." There is no mistaking the fact that the people in the north and their government are one in demanding north-south reunification.

In south Korea, all the people in all walks of life regard achieving territorial reunification as their supreme national task. There is a predominant view that any particular circle should not (be allowed to monopolize the reunification issue in a bid to promote its partisan interests. In particular with the coming of the eighties, the growing tendency is toward achieving north-south reunification.

Nobody can dare to oppose the reunification issue. For example, the north and south managed to issue a joint statement July 4, 1972, which laid down three principles of reunification—independence, peaceful means and great national unity. That set of principles remains as the most authoritative guideline binding both Pyongyang and Seoul to strive for north-south talks and reunification.

The world community supports and wishes for the materialization of reunification of Korea. The 1972 UN General Assembly endorsed the July 4 north-south joint statement. The 1975 UN General Assembly passed a resolution, calling for the independent and peaceful reunification of the Land of Morning Calm. Last year, more than one billion people placed their signatures on the world-wide petitions for the reunification of Korea.

REUNION MAJOR CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO PEACE

Given its past conduct and potential, a unified Germany would likely emerge a revanchist militaristic state with expansionist designs. Unlikely, however, would a reunified Korea assume aggressive, threatening designs to realize the balance of force in Northeast Asia.

A hard reality is that because of its division, Korea is caught in a continuing explosive confrontation of more than one million-strong armies armed with up-to-date weapons, with nearly 1,000 nuclear arms kept in place in south Korea. The division is sharpening the mutual distrust and suspicion between the northerners and the southerners.

These border-crossings along the frontier began to increase rapidly as the Japanese aggressors became increasingly violent after the Eulsa Treaty. Their number further increased around 1910 when Korea was "annexed" to Japan, so that within a few years hundreds of thousands of Koreans had migrated to various parts of Manchuria. They were people who crossed the Amrok River because they could not repress their indignation at statelessness or endure the difficult living conditions, righteous volunteers who crossed the border river in groups, exiles who had taken part in the March 1 Movement, and fighters who had organized secret anti-Japanese societies in Korea.

General Kim Il Sung, recalling, these moments in his life, said later, after his fatherland was liberated:

"I crossed the Amrok River when I was 14, firmly determined not to return until Korea became independent. Young as I was then, I could not repress my sorrow when I wondered when I would be able to tread this land again, and when I would return to this land where I had grown up and where lay many forefathers' graves, singing the 'Song of the Amrok River,' composed by someone."

("Selected Works of Kim Il Sung," Korean edition, Publishing House of Workers' Party of Korea, Vol. 1, p.11, 1963)

The General crossed the Amrok River and entered Changpai.

The General, back in his dear home at Pataokou, was reunited with his mother and brothers of whom he had dreamed so often.

Welcoming back the future General who had travelled a thousand ri (one ri equals 400m) alone, his mother and brothers were overjoyed, and could hardly settle down. His mother gently took care of her child again, the child returned safe and sound from along and arduous journey, and was proud of this 14-year-old bright, sturdy boy. She told the General that his father had escaped from the police while under escort following his arrest, and that he was now hiding at Fusung.

But even before he could recover from his fatigue, he had to continue his trip. His mother sent him off at once as soon as he had finished supper. She told the General to take his younger brothers to the home of a friend of his father's at Linchiang, as the first step to move to Fusung where his father was. His mother also told him that she would tidy up the house and come later, which was quite unexpected by him. The General had hoped that his mother would let him stay home at least for two or three days as he had returned from the long journey. Why had his mother told him to leave so soon, he wondered, with sorrow.

But his mother was thinking from a different and deeper point of view. The home at Pataokou was then in an extremely dangerous place. The enemy was frantically looking for Mr. Kim Hyong Jik who had been arrested but had escaped, seeking him far and wide. They might break into the Pataokou home at any moment. So the mother chose the pain of separating from the General immediately after her meeting with her son rather than expose him to such danger.

The General and his brothers arrived safely at Linchiang, and several days later, their mother joined them. Politely introducing herself to the family members of the master's home, the mother took her three sons to an eating house near by.

Mrs. Kang Ban Suk was relieved only when she had checked all the movements around her sons, as she always kept watchful eyes on the enemy. Now, her face lighting up with affection, she gave them the necessary instructions about their future life in the new place, before returning to the home of their father's friend.

The General became aware of that excellent trait in his mother, which made her so careful about everything and kept her eyes on constant guard against the enemy.

The family stayed at Linchiang for about a month, during which time his uncle Kim Hyong Kwon, who had been in Hsinpa, came to Linchiang.

Deepening Respect for His Father

One day, a messenger was sent by a close friend of his father, to guide the General, his mother and two brothers, and his uncle to a house on Hsiaonanmen Street at Fusung. Mr. Kim Hyong Jik, suffering from the injuries inflicted by his tortures in prison and from frostbite received during his escape, had been in a critical condition, but when the General visited him, he had recovered. He had opened a small clinic named the Moorim Medical Practitioner's Office, while continuing his revolutionary activities.

The father was very happy to meet his son. Looking at his proud and reliable son, Mr. Kim Hyong Jik asked the General how he lived in Korea, his manner now showing deep confidence in the young man who had already seen through the false mechanizm of society in which he lived.

The General saw in his father's attitude the enthusiasm of a man who had devoted himself to the cause of revolution, and was deeply moved by the attitude of his father and felt new respect for him.

The heroic determination he had made when he left his native place and again when he crossed the Amrok River, was now turning into a fierce flame of passion in his heart, a fire that urged him to grope for outstanding thoughts and methods of struggle which deserved the sacrifice of his all.

Until I See You Again, My Fatherland!

A central report meeting marking the 55th anniversary of the "1,000-ri journey for national liberation" made by President Kim Il Sung with the great aim of national liberation was held on Jan. 21 at the February 8 House of Culture in Pyongyang.

The President started his famous "1,000-ri journey for national liberation" on Jan. 22 in 1925, 55 years ago when he was only 14 . He left home upon hearing that his father Kim Hyong Jik was arrested by the Japanese police while engaged in a movement for national independence.

This odyssey was an eye-opener for the future Korean leader as he saw the sufferings of the fellow countrymen every place he passed by. That experience renewed his resolve to win back national independence and freedom.

Follow excerpts from Kim Il Sung: Biography, Volume 1 (Subtitles are ours...Ed.)

Many days and months passed after the General left his parents, his life away from them full of events.

One day, a messenger visited his mother's father from his grandfather at Mangyongde. After he left, his grandfather called him and told him that his father had been arrested by the Japanese imperialists. His mother wanted him to return immediately to Pataokou where she was.

Shocked and angry, the General was speechless for a moment, clenching his fist.

Having spent a night in his native home at Mangyongde, he woke up early next morning to prepare for his long trip, and in a somewhat excited tone said to his grandparents:

"I shall not return to the fatherland again until I have accomplished my father's plan, until the fatherland is set free and the Japanese aggressors expelled."

"Seungnon (You have said exactly what I wanted to hear from you. You follow in the footsteps of your father ...," said his grandmother, in a voice choked with emotion while those around fought back their tears.

He set out on his long journey while the morning mist lay over the village, bidding his grandparents farewell, and his uncle and aunt who saw him off with tears in their eyes.

Twelve days later he reached the ferry boat crossing at Poyung, Hoeryong county. The ferry, which he had used once, was dear to his memory. He saw there many poor fellow countrymen in tears who were leaving their native place for Manchuria to gain their livelihood.

Before his eyes the Amrok flowed, the border between Korea and Manchuria. But to the General the Amrok was something more than a border, a river. It was a frontier that put an end to his school, ending a childhood spent over the several hundred kilometres his family had travelled in an alien land; it was a boundary beyond which he would enter a new domain, a new world with a ring of sorrow and determination, yet with unfathomable meaning. Beside the General who was filled with a thousand emotions, many fellow countrymen, kith and kin, were bidding their last farewell to the fatherland, standing shoulder to shoulder, tears in their eyes.

First-Hand Experience of Sufferings of Fellow Countrymen

No one born and reared in Korea could cross the Amrok without emotion. It seemed as if the river, along with the Tuman River, flowed with tears of sorrow- and anger, stricken refugees and fighters. Indeed, his fellow countrymen began to cross in groups as early as the middle of the 19th century, singing songs of sorrow. And the number of these border-crossings along the frontier began to increase rapidly as the Japanese aggressors became increasingly violent after the Eulsa Treaty. Their number further increased around 1910 when Korea was "annexed" to Japan, so that within a few years hundreds of thousands of Koreans had migrated to various parts of Manchuria. They were people who crossed the Amrok River because they could not repress their indignation at statelessness or endure the difficult living conditions, righteous volunteers who crossed the border river in groups, exiles who had taken part in the March 1 Movement, and fighters who had organized secret anti-Japanese societies in Korea.

General Kim Il Sung, recalling, these moments in his life, said later, after his fatherland was liberated:

"I crossed the Amrok River when I was 14, firmly determined not to return until Korea became independent. Young as I was then, I could not repress my sorrow when I wondered when I would be able to tread this land again, and when I would return to this land where I had grown up and where lay many forefathers' graves, singing the 'Song of the Amrok River,' composed by someone."

("Selected Works of Kim Il Sung," Korean edition, Publishing House of Workers' Party of Korea, Vol. 1, p.11, 1963)

The General crossed the Amrok River and entered Changpai.

The General, back in his dear home at Pataokou, was reunited with his mother and brothers of whom he had dreamed so often.

Welcoming back the future General who had travelled a thousand ri (one ri equals 400m) alone, his mother and brothers were overjoyed, and could hardly settle down. His mother gently took care of her child again, the child returned safe and sound from along and arduous journey, and was proud of this 14-year-old bright, sturdy boy. She told the General that his father had escaped from the police while under escort following his arrest, and that he was now hiding at Fusung.

But even before he could recover from his fatigue, he had to continue his trip. His mother sent him off at once as soon as he had finished supper. She told the General to take his younger brothers to the home of a friend of his father's at Linchiang, as the first step to move to Fusung where his father was. His mother also told him that she would tidy up the house and come later, which was quite unexpected by him. The General had hoped that his mother would let him stay home at least for two or three days as he had returned from the long journey. Why had his mother told him to leave so soon, he wondered, with sorrow.

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—Industrial Establishments—

Kumsong Tractor Factory

The year 1958, twenty-two years ago, was an epock-making year for the Korean people especially for the farmers of the nation. That year, socialist cooperativization of farms was completed on a nation-wide scale and a new phase was opened in the country for developing its farming on the basis of socialist cooperativization.

To develop farming at a high pace, the production of tractors was requested to increase as fast as possible.

President Kim Il Sung in September, 1958, visited the Kiyang Tractor Factory in Taean City, South Pyongan Province, to call on the workers to produce tractors with their own techniques and labour. But the workers did not even know how to draw a blueprint of a track at all. They were doubtful if they could produce tractors by themselves. Besides, some foreign countries said that Koreans who only had very low industrial techniques, could not make tractors by themselves. If they succeeded in producing tractors, they would not have enough of them to satisfy the domestic demand. So, Koreans had better import tractors than make them by themselves, they said. But with the President's deep trust, the workers started trying to produce tractors when there was only one tractor in the country. They disassembled the tractor and drew a blueprint from disassembled parts. According to the blueprint, they assembled the parts into a complete unit in only about thirty days. When workers made a trial run of the tractor, it ran backward.

Hearing a report about a trial run at the Kiyang Tractor Factory, the President was pleased and said that when a certain developed country had produced its first tractor, it did not move, nor did the engine started at all. But, ours moved and ran even backward, he said.

In one month from the trial run, the workers of the factory made every possible effort and at last, completed their first tractor "Chollima-ho" on November 14, 1958.

Since then on, the workers of the Kiyang Tractor Factory fully carried out their tasks.

Two years after the production of the first tractor or in 1960, they turned out 3,000 tractors and during the Seven-Year Plan (1961-1970), they fulfilled their 2-year plan ahead of schedule and after that, a new tractor "Pungnyon-ho" was born there. Besides, in 1965, the number of tractor production at the factory reached to 10,000. The Kiyang Tractor Factory was renamed the Kumsong Tractor Factory that year.

In 1973, all the facilities for tractor production in the factory were semi-automated or automated and the factory's annual production capacity was jumped up to 30,000.

Today, the Kumsong Tractor Factory plays a key role in tractor production as the biggest tractor factory in the country. Tractors from the factory are fully operating in many fields throughout the country.

(To be continued)

Part of automated facilities at the Kumsong Tractor Factory in Taean City, South Pyongan Prov.

DPRK as I Saw (1)

The People's Korea introduces a report about the DPRK which was contributed to the magazine Yosong Dongmu, published by the Korean Patriotic Women's Association in America, by one south Korean anthropologist in the U.S. who visited the DPRK last summer with some other people.

Follows the first instalment:

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We visited several museums first. We were interested to visit museums because we were studying anthropology. Museums were used by the people as a mean of cultural, technical and ideological education in the north. I think we visited all museums in Pyongyang during our stay there—the national folklore museum, the historical museum, the revolution museum, the art museum, the Korean War museum and the industrial museum. We also visited the Silla Relics Museum in Sinchon county, North Hwanghae Province.

A guide led us and explained everything we saw in the museums. Buildings which we visited were all bigger and more beautiful than the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada. Those buildings were once built in other places just after the Korean War (1950-1953). At first, they were very small ones, but little by little, they were expanded and moved to places where they are now. Visiting these museums, we were surprised at the fact that the people in the north had paid efforts to collect destroyed remains, restored them and built museums to reserve the remains they had collected, even they had been busy rehabilting the devastated country just after the war.

The museum we first visited was the national folklore museum. When it was built in 1956, it had small space. It was rebuilt in 1963 on its present site.

The museum exhibited materials showing ancient national cultures and Korean people's living. We could find many things — Korea's national clothes, houses, food stuff, cooking utensils, marriage customs, etc. We could also see historical farming implements and fishing tackle. There were many materials showing how the Korean people fished and farmed in old days, and materials showing porcelain and paper-making techniques, ways of weaving hemp fibers. It also showed us how our ancestors improved these old utensils and how we should improve old ideas so as to suit them to our present needs. For example, an idea to change luxurious long skirts which women wear at marriage ceremonies, to simple short skirts (ankle length) to enable them to wear skirts not only in marriage ceremonies but also in ordinary life; an idea to change the Ondol room system (a system of heating rooms from under the floor by blowing hot air from ovens) to a system of pipes of warm water heated by steam from hydraulic power stations; an idea to use the Kayagum (stringed Korean instrument) for orchestra performances by increasing the number of its strings in order to suit its sound to modern tastes. After seeing all exhibits in the museum we knew that that museum showed the new generation how the ancient ancestors had lived and how they had created good old cultural assets and ideas which are useful even in our era.

The curator of the museum said that the state planned to exhibit materials showing the culture of present era in future (at that time, materials only about the early 20th century were exhibited there.) Many old ideas and remains which we saw there had already be improved and people were living the improved thing in their life, he said. He added that when the country was reunified a museum would be built having things in the whole of Korea, north and south.

Next, we visited the historical museum. It was opened to public in 1945 in rooms in a small temporarily built building and was moved to a new building in 1977. The museum had excavations proving the fact that in Korea there lived the first human being as old as the Peking man. Such remains have not yet been discovered by any one in the world. Exhibits of the museum showed the visitors how slavery followed the ancient tribal society and how the feudal society developed after slavery in Korea. We were attracted by the copies of the Royal Chronicles of the Li dynasty rendered into simple Korean. The chronicles consisted of 30 books. Of them, 20 have been translated and exhibited there. Emphasis in our history shown by the materials in the museum was laid on the Korean people's peacefulness. It showed many inventions by our ancestors; and the Korean people's courageous spirit. The museum exhibited materials showing the struggles of the Korean people against foreign invadors. It also stressed that the country had been divided into many monarchies in its long history, but the nation had always been united and the old culture had been reserved by the Korean people themselves.

(To be continued)

Under these circumstances, the threat of war is real in Korea. A new round of hostilities there is certain to expand into international warfare. Preparations for such eventuality are under way in south Korea. Large-scale military exercises involving Americans and south Koreans are part of an everyday life.

Such dangerous state of affairs would be terminated with Korea being peacefully reunified independently by peaceful means through democratic negotiations. Reunification would eliminate the sources of tension and distrust. Much of military spending would be diverted for the improvement of the national economy and welfare of the people.

The traditional pattern of behavior of the Korean nation—commitment to peace and good neighborhood relationships— would decide the course of conduct of a reunified Korea.

Won Devaluation : No Cure-all

The south Koreans on January 12 came out with a 19.8% devaluation of the won which was pegged down from 484 won to 590 won to the U.S. dollar.

As a result, the selling rate of the U.S. dollar by south Korean commercial banks were raised by 20.2 percent from 485 won to 582 won per dollar and the buying rate of the U.S. dollar was increased by 19.5 percent from 483 won to 597 won.

The annual interest rate on one-year time deposits was hiked from 18.6 percent to 24 percent.

The bank lending rate for prime customers was increased from 18.5 per cent to 24.5 per cent per year, and that other enterprises from 19 percent to 25 percent per annum.

According to a statement made public by the south Korean "Economic Planning Minister" on Jan. 12, this measure is aimed at: Improving the balance of international payments; increasing exports currently in the doldrums due to both internal and external market factors; and securing fund sources by absorbing capital which would otherwise flow to private loans and speculation in lands.

Despite "remarkable" and "miraculous" growth, the south Korean economy is fragile in constitution because of its malformation marked by heavy dependence on foreign capital, raw materials, fuels and technology.

The won-dollar conversion measure illustrates the economic high growth policy of South had been wrong, and the present economic crisis will grow more serious in the future.

Various local dailies negatively commented on the won-dollar conversion as "unrealistic."

"The devaluation of the Korean won and bank interest hike will seriously affect all segments of the national economy, notable, the balance of payments position, commodity prices, and the job market situation, just to mention a few." (The Korea Herald, Jan. 12)

"On the short-time basis, the negative effect of the won devaluation interest hike could be felt more seriously than the positive ones." (The Chung-Ang Il-bo, Jan. 12)

Thus, Seoul's such steps further aggravate the catastrophic economic crisis and the wide impact on the poor livelihood of the bulk of the people.

Rampant Price Hike

The new exchange rate is bound to send the prices the skyrocketing to further deteriorate the people's living.

The OPEC decision on June 28 last year to raise oil price levels gave an adverse impact upon the south Korean economy, and made the Seoul authorities to raise the oil prices by 59 percent. At the same time, electricity rates were increased by 35 percent and the prices of oil-related industrial products went up by a large margin ranging from 4.1 per cent to 48.4 percent. AFP reported on October 30 last year: "South Korea could be faced with an inflation rate nearly 30% this year in the wake of the latest increase of oil prices."

It is a pretty good bet that the so-called "Jan. 12 special economic measures" will give an impetus to the rampant price hike. Because south Korea is dependent on overseas markets for over 60 percent of its raw materials and fuel requirements.

Above-mentioned Korea Herald Jan. 12, in its news analysis, said: "If the things take a turn for the worse, an inflation possibly well over 30 percent might hit the nation." The Jan. 13 issue of the Chung-Ang Il-bo said "How price hike may turn out is anybody's guess."

No Significant Export Increase

Second, it is too difficult to expect an increase of export and curb of import.

The Federation of Korean Industries Jan. 13 said the high-than-expected hike in the won currency's conversion rate against the U.S. dollar would to some degree help to strengthen domestic products' competitive edge in the international market at least on a short term basis.

However, it would deteriorate the financial structures of local business firms heavily depending on external borrowings. As a World Bank report published last year pointed out that south Korea is emerging as a major borrower in a next few years.

Further, the hike of bank interest rates, taken against the long-held position of the business community that the bank rates should be further lowered at least to those of south Korea's competitors in the international export markets, would inevitably reduce their competitive positions in the international markets.

In south Korea, raw materials are not locally produced but imported. Fuels are also mainly imported.

Under these conditions, as the Jan. 12 issue of Chosun Il-bo pointed out, "After an increase in export was maintained on a six-month basis by the won-dollar conversion measure, the export growth is most likely to be affected by the rampant hike of the commodity prices."

Increased Financial Difficulty

Third, the new exchange rate will add to the interest of debts from the inducement of foreign capital and increase financial difficulty of the enterprises which are run in reliance upon foreign capital, especially small industries.

According to the Jan. 13 issue of the Chosun Il-bo, Seoul's foreign debts stood at $20 billion by the end of last year, excluding those to be repaid this year ($2,890 million in principal and interest).

Even if the loans are to be repaid at last year's level this year, more than 400 million dollars will have to be additionally disbursed due to the change of the exchange rate.

The devaluation will come as a serious shock especially to minor enterprises of south Korea.

The Korea Federation of Small Business Jan. 12 said that the domestic market-oriented industries and small industries would be inevitably driven into a harder financial pinch due to the increased financial burden.

The big enterprises which monopolize the imported raw and other materials scheme to transfer to them more than the losses caused by the raise in the international prices of raw materials and the new exchange rate.

The pure interest alone to be additionally paid by the minor enterprises is expected to add up to 360,000 million won annually.

With inflation running nearly 30% major companies went bankrupt one after another, creating the unemployment, and generating panic throughout south Korea. This visible signs of the economic disaster is one of fundamental causes which provoked the Pusan-Masan affair, bringing south Korea near the April 1960 popular uprising.

Last year, south Korea's total merchandise export amounted to $15,064 million while the total merchandise import reached $20,147 million. It had a customs-cleared trade deficit of $5,830 million in the end of last year, higher than any annual trade deficit figure in the past, while the current balance deficit amounted to $0.39 million. As a result of this, south Korean economy attained an growth rate of 7.1% last year, the lowest since 1975.

On December 18 last year the Korea Development Institute (KDI), on the basis of analysis of "present economic situation, announced its report "Problems in Economic Management for 1980 and Directions for Their Solutions," predicting 0-1% economic growth.

The KDI said if the authorities conducted de facto revaluation and increase of interest rate of the won, south Korea can predict 4% economic growth with increase in export.

After heated discussion on KDI's argument, finally, the Seoul authorities decided to take the won-dollar conversion measure.

An important feature of the present economic crisis of south Korea undergoing serious difficulties is a product of the structural contradictions of its "economy with primary emphasis on export."

The south Korean economy is an export economy producing goods of others with their fund, equipment, technique, fuel and raw materials, that is, an out-and-out dependent economy. Industry serves mainly for the production of processed goods for export and other economic branches including agriculture are also being changed to serve export.

All the human, material and monetery resources have been made to be used entirely for the expansion of the export industry of leased processing type.

In this course the socio-economic factors of economic stagnation and bankruptcy have grown and become deep-rooted.

It seems that the present south Korean economic crisis will grow more serious in the future. The reason is that the crisis is of more serious and prolonged character than ever before and the external conditions of the south Korean economy are expected to become worse.

Exchange Rates in the Past

(Local currency per U.S. dollar)

Enforcement Date	Rate
May 1, 1951	2.5 won
Nov. 10, 1951	6.6 won
Dec. 15, 1953	18.0 hwan
Jan. 20, 1960	50.0 hwan
Aug. 15, 1960	65.0 hwan
Jan. 1, 1961	100.0 hwan
Feb. 2, 1961	103.0 hwan
May 3, 1964	256.53 won
Dec. 31, 1965	272.60 won
Dec. 31, 1966	272.00 won
Nov. 24, 1967	272.75 won
Nov. 3, 1969	305.10 won
June 28, 1971	371.60 won
Dec. 30, 1972	399.70 won
April 30, 1974	400.00 won
Dec. 7, 1974	484.00 won
Jan. 12, 1980	580.00 won

T.K.: "SEKAI"

'Tortures under Martial Law'

The "Letters from South Korea" carried in the February issue of the Japanese political magazine "SEKAI" reported the continuing suppression of dissident forces by the south Korean "martial law command" as "Tortures under the Martial Law."

Follows an excerpt from the story:

Those who were arrested of involvement in the "YWCA incident" and the "General Federation of Christian Students incident" were legion. Most important dissidents were among them. The authorities plan to strictly control dissidents, while trying to create a good impression at home and abroad by taking such measures as the repeal of the emergency measures and release of political dissidents. Those who were put into jail and tortured heavily this time, include even Rev. Han Sok Hon who had been never arrested under the Pak regime. The authorities tortured even pastors who had never been put to such barbarous treatment in the past, and some of them fell unconscious.

In the face of the ardent popular desire for democracy, the military wanted to think that the "people might consider them anti-democratic group. But they have at last shown cloven hoofs when it clamped down on the democrats on the excuse that they had created social unrest. Many people felt surprised at the change in the military's attitude.

A young men involved in the incident said as follows:

"Twenty MPs on a truck raided an assembly hall. They forced us on the truck, ordered us to kneel down and to face downward. Dr. Kim Yong Buk of the Christian Academy had no sooner raised his head than a MP striked him on his head with a gun-stock. As he screamed, his blood spurted. As soon as we arrived at the Security Command of the Army in So Bingo, they took pictures of us and threw us into cellars. There were some MPs whose duty was to beat us with bats covered with something to prevent scars from being left on the skin. There were some MPs who specialize in tortures—who trample us underfoot with military boots, beat us only in our faces and kick us at our knees. Even before we were questioned, they beat us. We all fell unconscious again and again. If someone fell unconscious, an army surgeon stood beside him, opened his eyes and ordered soldiers to carry him a hospital. When we recovered our consciousness, we were again sent to So Bingo. Dr. Kim Yong Buk had five switches when he received an injury below his eyes. He was taken to hospital as he fell unconscious but after resting for about ten minutes on the bed, he was forced to return to the security command and was beaten again. Dr. Kim sustained a serious injury, Mps used the very cruel method of kicking us where we were injured.

"When I recover consciousness, I stretched myself on the bed in the hospital. I got heavily hurt in the head and the injury was closed with many switches. We could not sleep well as they disturbed our sleep.

"They gave us a sound thrashing with a yell till late at night. They cried: 'We will maintain the *yusin* system. We will torture you with a *yusin* spirit. It is easy to kill one or two of you.' One of them, introducing himself as a bodyguard of Pak Jung Hi, beat us, while saying that we had been creating social unrest, in less than one month after the death of the president, who rendered remarkable services to the cause of national construction.

"I was put into jail and put to tortures many times under the Park regime. But the most atrocious torture was committed this time. When we captives met in the court, I saw a man whose face was swollen. A young man said that the swollen face of the man showed inhuman tortures, and demanded that captives not be questioned with such barbarous methods."

The military are devising every possible means to support the *yusin* remnants controlling the country. It can be said that the dissident forces can clearly recognize the enemies of the nation and people.

The military are betraying the people. They are wolves wearing masks. The military deliberately spreaded a rumor that everything will go well. However, the democratic forces will never be divided and would not yield to the authorities even under pressure. If the military employed strong-arm methods against the democratic forces, they will take a firm attitude. And the people will give vent to their anger again. We have to go through hardships, but that is the only way for us to choose.

One of my friends forced a smile and said: "Hence, the soldiers will assist us at a wedding ceremony. They will remove a lid from a coffin at a funeral ceremony."

Pyongyang Flays Dissident Suppression

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea) Jan. 22 printed a signed commentary in connection with the fact that the south Korean authorities "court martialled" Yun Bo Son, Ham Sok Hon and 15 other democratic figures on January 16 and demanded three years in prison for Yun Bo Son and two years in prison for Ham Sok Hon.

The commentary titled "Insidious Act Throwing Cold Water on the Road of Dialogue" says: What merits attention is the fact that the trial was held at a time when we sent letters to responsible personages of the political parties and organisations and in the authority of south Korea proposing to meet with them for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

As is known, Yun Bo Son and Ham Sok Hon, co-chairmen of the National Union for Democracy and National Unification of south Korea, are among those to whom we sent letters.

Right after we sent letters proposing to have dialogue and contact between the north and the south for the country's peace and peaceful reunification, the south Korean side hurriedly resumed the trial of democratic personages which had been delayed for nearly two months and demanded penalties for them. This gives rise to doubts among broad public circles at home and abroad.

It is an act obstructive to north-south contact and dialogue for the south Korean authorities to illegally bring before the trial democratic figures to whom we sent letters and demand prison terms for them.

Recalling that at a time when the north-south political talks started in 1972, the former dictator of south Korea brought before a trial and murdered personages who had been active for democracy and peaceful reunification, the commentary stresses: such acts must not be repeated.

398th MAC Held

"Magex-80" Denounced

KAESONG, January 22 (KCNA)—The 398th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) was held today at Panmunjom at the proposal of our side.

Major General Han Ju Gyong, senior member of our side, said: The composition of armed forces participating in the south Korea-U.S. joint exercises codenamed "Magex-80" being staged in the area near the Military Demarcation Line and their nature and contents show that the exercises are entirely aimed at attacking us. Accordingly, the exercises are a wanton violation of the armistice agreement, an unpardonable aggressive act jeopardizing peace in Korea and blocking the way to the country's reunification and, further, an extremely dangerous criminal act endangering peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

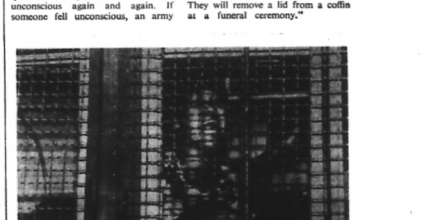
According to the statement of the senior member of our side, entering this year, the enemy side infiltrated the high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" into the air over our eastern and western coastal waters on 7 occasions.

Such intrusions numbered 33 from October 22 to December 29 last year.

During the period from October 17 last year to January 15 this year the south Korean army committed provocations and violations on over 5,500 occasions, firing bullets towards the portion of our side in the Demilitarized Zone and introducing and installing heavy weapons in the southern portion of the DMZ.

The enemy side perpetrated violations of the armistice agreement and the subsequent agreements on over 280 occasions in the headquarters' area of the MAC during the same period, and the number of provocations and violations committed by the enemy side in the Joint Security Area amounts to over 70 during the period from November 18 last year to January 15 this year.

The senior member of our side sternly protested against its provocative war exercises, espionage acts and ceaseless military provocations committed against our side, strongly demanded the enemy side immediately discontinue the war exercises, espionage acts and military provocations and take out of south Korea without delay all the armed forces and combat equipment introduced there.



Young girl workers are screaming for help while being taking away in a police van after about 200 female employees of Y.H. Industrial Company staged a sit-in protest on Aug. 10, 1979.

Statement of S. Korean Roman Catholic Com. for Justice & Peace

Our Views on Instituting Right Constitutional Gov.

Roman Catholics in south Korea articulated their demand for the earliest adoption of constitutional government in view of the death of Pak Jung Hi. This was made clear in a statement issued by their organization known as the Roman Catholic Committee for Justice and Peace on November 20 last. Follows a text of the statement:

▲ ▲

The death of President Pak Jung Hi resulted from a gunplay in a mutiny by top government officials after days of young students-spearheaded large-scale citizen demonstrations in Pusan and Masan which began on October 16 last.

Such internal conflicts of the state forced acting President Choi Gyu Ha to announce a plan for constitutional amendments on November 10. In other words, the present executive realized the demand of the public and knew that the crux of the demand was for the end of the *yusin* regime.

In a time of such upheavals, the armed forces did their best to discharge their first duty of defending the frontline and preserve public peace, while the masses of people exercised self-control to maintain order. And demonstrated the democratic resources of our state to the world community of nations.

In other recent developments, however, problems have arisen again. Let us ask the remnant politicians of the old ruling party including those in charge of the present caretaker government whether they truly subscribe to the sort of democracy and just society which the people stand for? Our question here is not whether that so-called caretaker government to maintain security and order is good or not.

It is proper that the rulers under the *yusin* regime should sincerely reflect on their conduct before the people.

As a sign of such needed self-examination, all the prisoners of conscience, victims of the *yusin* regime, must be pardoned and released among others in order to build a climate for human rights and accommodation.

It is also necessary for all the victims to be rehabilitated and reinstated to their former positions and to restore the free press.

These steps to restore human rights must go before the constitutional amendment and the change of the regime and serve as a steppingstone for historical development.

The justifiable cause does not need any political procedures. "Security and order" are repeatedly stressed in connection with the present state of our nation, but in the fundamental sense "security and peace" can become real only when justice has prevailed.

Security without justice is forced silence and may offer an excuse for stratagem and deception.

At present, all the rulers are chorusing the call for public will, public consensus and a peaceful change of power. Then, why are they making the impression that they are moving at a snail's speed toward the history of justice, without any schedule for constitutional government being unveiled? The impression is that they are helping the remnants of the old regime to seize power again. What are they afraid of?

Accommodation and peace must come. Yet, accommodation should not be compromised by injustice.

In the stage for a just development of history, those guilty of the past mistakes must on their accord reconsider those, kneel down before the people and ask for pardon, before they receive national condemnation. Such step would mark the first move to national accommodation.

How come we can think it is possible to bring about "national reconciliation" in the true sense of the term to the exclusion of those who have suffered from all sorts of persecution, namely, Kim Dae Jung and other democratic opponents, Kim Ji Ha and other men of letters, numerous religionists, dismissed professors, reporters, students, workers and peasants?

If some old politicos, while paying lip service to national consensus and will, try to carry out a constitutional amendment, with those victims being left as they are, our nation would face a brave confusion and calamities.

So, the churches insist that any political order similar to the *yusin* regime should be introduced again.

One of the preconditions for it, we call upon the military to maintain strict neutrality. When the military remain neutral, public trust in them would grow deeper.

We, the Christian churches, would like to set forth the following principles for democratic development of our fatherland:

The conduct of political power must be based on moral power rooted in the history and responsibility of every citizen.

Mechanical or tyrannical conduct of politics or tricky political behaviour is no longer acceptable to anybody.

Insisting that just restoration of democracy, national reconciliation, and history of our nation good should be achieved as soon as possible without pretext or formalities, we demand the following:

1. to unveil all the details of the schedule for democracy to the nation without any delay;

2. to release all the prisoners of conscience immediately;

3. to incorporate clear "human rights-guaranteeing clauses into a new constitution;

4. for the military to remain neutral for the development of democratic constitutionalism;

5. for all those guilty of corruption and undemocratic conduct to resign from their public posts and discipline themselves.

November 28, 1979

The Korean Roman Catholic Committee for Justice and Peace

Brief News From S. Korean Dailies

SNU Hospital Raises Medical Rates 20-150%

The medical charges of the Seoul National University Hospital have been raised by 20 to 150% since the beginning of this year.

The hospital raised the charges for diagnosing patients who visit the hospital for the first time by 14.3%, from 1,400 won to 1,600 won, and those for medical insurance subscribers utilizing the hospital by 23.5% from 850 won to 1,050 won.

Meal fees for inpatients were hiked by 60%, from 1,500 won to 2,400 won, and blood testing fees were raised by 150%, from 1,000 won to 2,500 won.

(The Korea Herald, January 19, 1980*)*

29% of Fire Accidents in Seoul Caused by Oil

Nearly 29% of the fires reported in Seoul last year were caused by mishandling of oil, according to the Seoul City Fire-fighting Headquarters.

Those fires killed 44 persons, injured 154 others and caused 300,928,000 won damages, officials said.

Those accidents were part of a total of 2,687 fires reported last year. The total was an increase of 1% over 1978.

A total of 80 persons were killed and 126 others were injured in last year's reported fires which also caused an estimated 1,670 million won in proper damages.

Officials said 773 fires, which accounted for 28.7% of the total, were caused by mishandling of stoves and other heating devices using oil. They were followed by fires caused by faulty wiring, 25.3%, and by cigaret butts, 10.9%.

(The Korea Herald, January 19, 1980*)*

7 Hyundai Workers Die in Blaze

Seven technicians of the Hyundai Heavy Industrial Corp. died of suffocation on January 17 when a fire broke out in the boiler room of a Nigerian multipurpose cargo vessel which was under construction at a company pier in Chonha-dong, Ulsan, South Kyongsang Province.

(The Korea Herald, January 19, 1980*)*

Tuition Fees Hike 16.2% for Private Colleges

In a major shift of its policy, the ministry of education said that it would not meddle in deciding on tuition fees for privately run medical colleges and graduate schools from this year.

It announced an average 16.2% rise in tuition and other fees for students at private colleges and universities throughout the country.

State and public universities also have been authorized to increase by an average 25% their school fees which include those on experimental programs.

In line with the recent devaluation of the Korean currency which resulted in sweeping price hikes, the ministry also permitted technical and commerce colleges, both private and public, to readjust upward their school fees within the level of 4%.

Also, junior technical colleges were permitted to boost their tuition and other fees by 21.8 to 24.2%.

Science majors at private colleges in Seoul will have to pay 663,000 won each this year as a result of the latest tuition hikes. The figure excludes entrance fees averaging 70,000 won per freshman.

Students specializing in sciences at state and public schools are to pay 297,000 won each on average, marking less than half of tuitions for private colleges.

(The Korea Herald, January 22, 1980*)*

$7 Bil. Loan from Abroad to Aid Balance of Payments

The government has decided to induce a total of $7,000 million from abroad in the medium-and long-term loans this year to improve the ever-deteriorating balance of payments position.

According to the sources concerned on January 21, the projected loan, including $1,040 million in the standby credit from the IMF, will be used to offset the ever-widening current account deficit and to reimburse the principal on foreign loans induced thus far.

This year's current account deficit is expected to reach $4,700 million while the nation's foreign debt servicing requirements is likely to rise to $1,800 million, according to the sources.

The remainder of slightly less than $500 million will be added to the foreign exchange reserve, the sources said.

(The Korea Herald, January 22, 1980*)*

'80 Rice Production Set at 42 Mil. Sok

This year's food grain production goal was set at 57,145,000 sok(one sok—one straw bag—equals roughly 144. 4kg), 257,000 sok down from the previous year, it was learned at the ministry of agriculture and fisheries on January 21.

The food grain production plan for this year, worked out by the ministry, calls for producing a total of 43 million sok of rice (up 9% over last year), 6,977,000 sok of barley and wheat (down 38%), 2,745,000 sok of legume (up 15%) and 1,319,000 sok of minor-grains (up 7%).

To effectively attain the production target for rice, the rice paddies for the new high-yielding rice species will be expanded to 930,000 hectares from the present 744,000 hectares the ministry officials said.

The cultivation areas of the "Milliyong 30," the new high-yielding rice strain resistant to the rice plan-fever, will be increased to 300,000 hectares, they said.

The ministry plan calls for boosting the rice harvest per acre to 494kg from last year's 453kg.

(The Korea Herald, January 22, 1980*)*

21 Blazes Kill 2, Injure 4 in Seoul One Day

A total of 21 fires broke out in Seoul during cold weather January 21, killing two persons and injuring four others, police reported on January 22.

A man killed in a fire at a restraurant building in Solin-dong, downtown Seoul, January 21 night, was identified as Min Pyong Chil, 38, owner of a gutted shop.

The one-hour blaze destroyed the first and second floors of the building and five adjacent shops.

Police estimated the property damages at about 11 million won.

(The Korea Herald, January 23, 1980*)*

Brief History of Korean Residents in Japan:

Formation of Juche-Motivated Chongryun

(Continued from the previous issue)

The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) was formed on May 25, 1955 as a Juche-motivated overseas organization representing the will and interests of Korean nationals in Japan.

In its 5-point program and action policy, Chongryun put forth as its central task to rally Korean compatriots around the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by President Kim Il Sung; to accomplish the independent, peaceful reunification of the country; to defend their democratic national rights including the citizenship of the DPRK and the rights of the national education; to cement international solidarity with the peace-loving people of the world including the Japanese people.

The formation of Chongryun enabled the Korean nationals in Japan to serve the development and prosperity of their country and the independent and peaceful reunification of their homeland, as overseas citizens of the DPRK, not as the Korean minority in this country.

Central headquarters of Chongryun

Warm Care of President

The 25-year history of Chongryun is marked by the wise guidance and warm care of President Kim Il Sung and the patriotic zeal of Korean compatriots here.

Since its formation, President Kim Il Sung indicated lines and ways for the development of the movement of overseas compatriots, on the basis of his elucidation of the basic tasks and principles of the movement.

Every year the President cables a New Year message to Japan and indicated the tasks of the movement.

All the necessary steps were taken by the President in a bid to protect them and Chongryun from encroachment by hostile foreign forces. Their nationality and human rights were declared within the jurisdiction of the DPRK law. The DPRK nationality law was proclaimed in October, 1963, in which the status of overseas compatriots was legally protected.

He paid particular attention to the national education of Korean youths in Japan supposed to live Koreans and take over Chongryun in order to continue to serve the fatherland and the nation.

He remitted the first installment of educational aid funds and stipends to Japan in 1957. when the whole of the DPRK was engaged in reconstruction of the economy and when the homeland was pressed for money and raw materials in a vigorous rehabilitation plan following the Korean War.

Since April, 1957, till January, 1980. the total amount of educational aid funds and scholarships have been remitted to Japan on 74 occasions and reaches ₩27,832,827,033 in Japanese currency. Representatives of Koreans here were given the honour of being elected Deputies to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly. As a result, the resident Koreans here are involved in the state affairs of their homeland in the same way the people of the homeland are.

The Korean nationals were decorated with many state citations and award of titles in high recognition of their patriotic service, such as "Order of Kim Il Sung," the highest order of the DPRK, and the title of labor Hero of the DPRK, the highest honor of the DPRK citizens.

With the repatriation operation opened, nearly 100,000 of Koreans have returned from Japan to the fatherland on a total of 183 sailings of the repatriation ship, since 1959 the first repatriation ship left Japan for the DPRK.

The President invited Chongryun officials and resident Koreans to the homeland and cordially received them.

Achievements

Under the wise guidance and warm concern of the President, during its 25 years of existence, Chongryun emerged as a rock firm organization of overseas nationals on the basis of the Juche thought.

Today, Chongryun has its head office, 49 local headquarters, more than 300 chapters and some 2,000 branches, covering the whole of Japan. It has 13 member organizations as the youth league, the women's union, the commerce-industry society, organizations of educationists, scientists, writers and artists, journalists, students and sportsmen and organizations of compatriots in other walks of life. All these organizations have their own head offices and local branches.

Affiliated with Chongryun are 14 business enterprises, including the mass media, research institutes and trading firms. The mass media bring out 38 periodicals in five languages. They include the Korean-language daily Choson Sinbo, weekly papers in English, French and Spanish, monthly magazines, a pictorial, the daily news service. They also compile and print textbooks to be used in Korean schools. These business enterprises are playing their legitimate role in the patriotic activities. These periodicals contributed to educate all Chongryun officials and resident Koreans with the Juche thought.

Chongryun owes the Kumgang-san Opera Troupe and many other mass art troupes. It also have the Morion Pictures Studio, 12 local song and dance troupes, large numbers of art circles, some 100 athletic teams including the Korean Soccer Team in Japan. Involved in these activities are more than 22,000 Chongryun workers, compatriots, and student youth.

Chongryun owes its own financial agencies. There are now 37 Korean credit associations and their head offices and branches are about 140, with their total deposits amounting to about ₩536,085 million. Now, their role is significant as reliable national banking institutes catering to the resident compatriots and businessmen.

A remarkable success was achieved in the democratic national educational project.

Now, Chongryun operates a well-organized system of democratic national education from kindergarten to university.

There are 153 regular Korean schools at all levels, where they are taught in Korean.

There are also a Japan-wide network of irregular schools for those attending Japanese schools, including afternoon, evening and summer schools and exclusive Korean classes created at Japanese schools. Correspondence courses, too, are available.

Graduates from Korean juniour or seniour high schools and Korea University are playing an active role in all the fields of Chongryun activities.

Much efforts have been launched to defend the democraic national rights of the residents compatriots. In the lights of the historical background of resident nationals, the Japanese authorities have the legal and moral obligation to ensure the democratic, national rights for them.

However, the Japanese authorities have continued to discriminate against the Korean citizens here.

In defense of DPRK citizenship, Chongryun has countered the intrigues of the Japanese reactionaries to force the resident compatriots to apply for "permanent resident" and adopt "south Korean nationality." The suppressive "immigration bill" has been killed four times. The bill was for the purpose of trampling underfoot the national rights of Korean residents including their human rights and living rights, and of suppressing all the patriotic movements of Chongryun through mass deportation of Korean compatriots. The "Foreign School Bill" were also killed for seven times.

Always rejecting the attempt of the Japanese reactionaries to fabricate evil laws against Koreans in Japan, Chongryun has firmly defended their rights and protected the dignity of the nation.

Chongryun also protected the rights to repatriation, travel to the fatherland and study abroad and their legal rights recognized by international law and strove for expansion of these rights.

Through the efforts, Chongryun defended the ship route of repatriation.

Study abroad and travels to the homeland and the third countries, though limited, have become possible. These efforts are to defend the democratic national rights which do not mean those for the minority in an alien land, Chongryun has kept the stand that the problem of the democratic national rights will be completely solved when the country is reunified.

To reunify the divided fatherland is the greatest national duty for the entire Korean people. As, clarified in its 5-point program Chongryun attached top priority to the reunification of the country and has done its efforts to accelerate the independent, peaceful reunification of the country. Chongryun informed the three principles and 5-point program for reunification among the Korean compatriots. As a result movements were staged to support these reunification programs.

When the 28th UNGA approached, Korean compatriots numbering 250,000 persons including some compatriots of Mindan (ROK Residents Organization) took part in the signature collection campaign against the "simultaneous UN membership".

Chongryun made efforts to strengthen its ties with international forces for the reunification of the country. Chongryun systematically introduced Pyongyang's reasonable policy and proposals for the reunification among the peoples the world over. It also exposed the nation-splitting plots of the U.S. and south Korean authorities.

Through the efforts, 1,128 local self-government bodies in Japan adopted resolutions supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea as of November 8, 1978.

Chongryun has also waged positive activities to strengthen friendship and ties with the peoples the world over including Japanese.

Chongryun contributed to the World Conference for the Independent, Peaceful Reunification of Korea held in Tokyo, November, 1978 and the International Women's Conference for Korea Reunion held here last year.

Chongryun distributed to over 140 states in the world the works of the President in English, French, Spanish and Arabic and its publications. Many representatives were sent to the international conferences.

Tiny Socialist Republic

Koreans in Japan regard the socialist DPRK led by President Kim Il Sung as their sole legitimate government.

Thanks to the Chongyun's efforts, Korean communities here from Hokkaido to Okinawa are proudly preserving their cultural heritage and identity as members of the Korean nation who possesses 5,000-year history.

They speak Koreans, eat Korean foods and wear Korean traditional costume; in short, they live in a Korean way. They refuse to be assimilated into Japanese society.

Though there still remains discrimination against Koreans here, Chongryun and Korean nationals are continuing to defend their democratic national rights as overseas citizens of the dignified sovereign state.

Chongryun, today, developed an authoritative overseas organization of the DPRK. Tokyo correspondent of the Australian paper "The Australian" described Chongryun as "a tiny socialist republic in the sea of capital Japan." (Jan. 28, 1974 issue of the Australian) **(To be continued)**

Korean Paintings

A stroll under the pine tree in the moonlight

By Li Sang Jwa (the 15-16 centuries)

(Continued from page 1)

meeting was also participated in by south Korean sports teams in spite of the obstructive maneuvers by the dictator Syngman Rhee.

South Korean teams also participated in the National Sports Festival held in Pyongyang **in the following year 1949** to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

Since then, efforts had been made to promote interchanges in sports between north and south. **In February 1950,** the DPRK sent an open letter to the south Korean sportsmen in the name of the Rally of the Sportsmen in Pyongyang City.

With this as the start, proposals for a single national team of north and south Korea and north-south cultural and physical exchanges have been made by the DPRK side on every occasion.

In July 1956, the Olympic Committee of the DPRK proposed to the south Korean authorities to jointly participate in the Sixth World Youth Festival (held in Moscow in 1957).

In June 1957, the DPRK Olympic Committee suggested to the South Korean National Olympic Committee that a north-south unified team be formed. **In December the same year** the DPRK side sent a letter, offering to start discussions on a plan to dispatch a north-south unified team to the 17th Olympic Games held in Rome in 1960.

A meeting of sportsmen was held in Pyongyang to accelerate physical and cultural exchanges between north and south and various sports associations respectively proposed to their counterparts in south Korea.

These sincere efforts of the DPRK side were warmly and widely accepted by the south Korean people and sportsmen, and warm support came from various international sports associations.

However, the south Korean dictatorial regime and the authorities completely ignored these proposals.

Urged by the DPRK's efforts and the warning of the general secretary of the International Olympic Committee —"The south Korea will be eliminated from the Olympic Games, if it rejects the north-south sportsmen talks for forming a united team."—the south Korean side unwillingly came out to the north-south talks of sportsmen held in Lausanne **in January 1963** and in Hongkong **in May 1963.**

But the south Korean side, opposed to the formaion of a united team, sabotaged the talks, taking an insincere attitude and finding fault with the DPRK side, and finally brought the talks to an unsuccessful conclusion.

Later **in 1966,** the DPRK Soccer Association, which was to participate in the 8th World Cup Soccer Championships as an Asian representative, called on south Korean players to jointly participate in the leagues, and the DPRK players individually called the south Korean players to appear on an international arena in a single national team.

In the beginning of the 1970's, the authorities concerned of the DPRK announced that if north and south Korea participated in an international sports meeting as a single team, it would contribute to promoting a climate for Korea's reunification.

In April 1979, the 35th World Table Tennis Championships were held in Pyongyang. With Championships at hand, a climate for forming a north-south united team mounted and 4 rounds of official talks of north-south sportsmen were held at Panmunjom.

The talks, however, broke down because of perfidious disruptive acts committed by the south Korean side.

It is also a unanimous desire of the south Korean people and sportsmen to form a "north-south united team" by overcoming the tragedy of national division.

After the April 19 Uprising in 1960, in response to the DPRK overture, they called "Let's go to north! Come to south!" When the "July 4 north-south joint statement" was published, they expressed in newspapers their warm aspirations for north-south sports exchange, for a reopened Pyongyang-Seoul Soccer Match, and also for a north-south united team.

The south Korean people gave unstinted praise to the DPRK's female skater Han Pil Hwa when she won a silver medal at the Innsbruck Winter Olympic Games held in 1964.

Patterned earthenware articles

Korean Cultural History:

Neolithic Culture (2)

(Continued from No. 976 issue of the People's Korea)

Korea entered the neolithic age in the 9th century B.C. Remains of the neolithic age were found in the vast areas from the present Korean Peninsula to the basin of the Liao River, Northeast China.

Combware

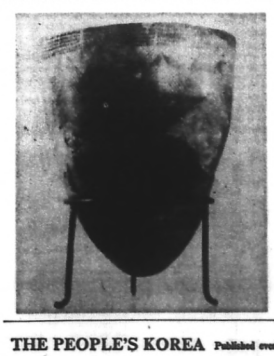
Neolithic artifacts were discovered in shell mounds in Kungsan, Onchon county, South Pyongan Province and in dwelling places in Chitap-ri, Pongsan county, North Hwanghae Province. The neolithic age is divided into the early period and the later period. Remains found at Kungsan-ri are typical of the early period and Chitap-ri remains represent the later period. These excavated remains belong to those of 5,000 B.C. to the beginning of 2,000 B.C.

In the neolithic age, people came to settle. In the paleolithic age, people moved here and there in order to get food.

Shell mounds were found at Sopohan remains, Kulpo-ri, Unggi county, North Hamgyong Province. In the ruins of dwelling places there was a kind of solid floor hardened like concrete due to use for a long period.

A distinguishing mark of the neolithic age is polished stonewares, unglazed earthenware and primitive farming. Neolithic people developed a distinct Korean culture different from that in Siberia or in the Yellow River valley.

The pottery of neolithic Korea is characteristic, decorated with incised lines or scratches resembling those made by passing the teeth of a comb over the clay before firing. This type of pottery is therefore called combware. Combware indicates a peculiar cultural mode of the Korean nation. Such pottery was excavated at Kungsan remains. Therefore, the neolithic culture was termed as the "Kungsan culture."



Combware

Diorite was used for axes. Slate and schist, easy to be whetted, were used for arrow and spear heads. In this way, various instruments and articles for domestic use were made.

Various kinds of productive instruments for farming, fishing, hunting and spinning were excavated. Among them are quadrate stone axes, cylindrical stone axes, arrow heads, spear heads, spinning wheels, etc.

Through these instruments their production activities were promoted and their living became abundant.

The dwelling houses of the Kungsan culture were dug out, by removing earth 40-120 cm deep. The vestiges of pillars and fireplaces were found. Houses were circular, rectangular or square in shape. Roofs were of conical or gabled. Animals bones were exhumed around the ruins of dwelling houses. Unearthed articles among Kungsan remains included horns of deers and buffalos along with bones of fishes.

Farming Started

In the neolithic period farming started on the Korean Peninsula. In the early period of the Kungsan culture or in the late 40th century B.C. stone spades and sticks for plowing were used. Stone ploughs and stone sickles were used in the second period of the Kungsan culture in the late 30th century B.C. The Kungsan culture proved that: people of the neolithic period on the Korean Peninsula led settled lives from the early days; did production activities centering on farming; since the 30th century B.C. they used stone plough whose productive efficiency was higher than stone spades.

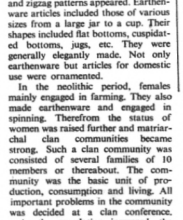
Carbonized unhulled rice, stone hoes, stone sickles, stone plates for hulling rice and flouring grain, along with bones of dogs and pigs, were unearthed in the ruins of dwelling places in the latter period of the neolithic remains including the Chitap-ri remains.

People of the neolithic period spun thread from wild flax. Many spinning wheels were excavated. Also found were various bone gimlets and needles. The shape of needles is similar to that of later metal needles. Furthermore, they included delicate needles with pinholes with a diameter of only 1 mm.

Unglazed Earthenware Articles

The neolithic people possessed high technique for making unglazed earthenware.

The methods of making earthenware are divided according to size. Almost of all the earthenware articles excavated at the Chitap-ri remains are those with a 50 cm aperture and 60-70 cm depth. In spite of such large eathenware, their thickness was only 6 mm or less. Each earthenware article was patterned. Among the patterns were: dotted lines, oblique lines and leaf figures of unhulled rice. In the latter period, guilloche and zigzag patterns appeared. Earthenware articles included those of various sizes from a large jar to a cup. Their shapes included flat bottoms, cuspidated bottoms, jugs, etc. They were generally elegantly made. Not only earthenware but articles for domestic use were ornamented.



Bone needles

In the neolithic period, females mainly engaged in farming. They also made earthenware and engaged in spinning. Therefrom the status of women was raised further and matriarchal clan communities became strong. Such a clan community was consisted of several families of 10 members or thereabout. The community was the basic unit of production, consumption and living. All important problems in the community was decided at a clan conference. As the clan community increased, the clan was divided into several clans. As these clans were of the same clan, they formed a larger ethnic group. Every member of an ethnic group and clans were equal and there existed no private property or social class.

Increased production and expanded productive activities changed the social structure together with its primitive community.

In the later neolithic age, farming was conducted with hoes and the status of males was gradually raised. Then, matriarchal clan communities began to fall to be replaced by patriarchal communities. Then, Korea entered the bronze age.

(To be continued)

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